

# *International Boundary Study*

SERIES A

LIMITS IN THE SEAS

*Straight Baselines*

INDONESIA



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INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY STUDY

Series A

LIMITS IN THE SEAS

No. 35

*STRAIGHT BASELINES: INDONESIA*

The Geographer  
Office of the Geographer  
Bureau of Intelligence and Research

## **STRAIGHT BASELINES: INDONESIA**

### **SUMMARY**

The Republic of Indonesia has established straight baselines based upon the so-called archipelago theory which is not recognized in international law. The system extends for over 8,000 nautical miles about the outermost points of the Indonesian outer islands and encloses approximately 666,100 square nautical miles of internal waters and 98,000 square nautical miles of territorial sea. The totals are approximately 3.5 times the territorial sea which Indonesia would claim under a 12 nautical mile territorial limit had there been no use of straight baselines.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Government of Indonesia, on February 18, 1960, decreed straight baselines for the republic. The straight baseline system connects the outermost points of the islands of the archipelago, except as noted below, enclosing extensive areas as internal seas and overlapping many important straits of the region. The text of the law is as follows:

### **INDONESIA**

#### **ACT NO. 4**

#### **The President of the Republic of Indonesia**

Considering:

1. that the geographical configuration of Indonesia as an archipelagic State which consists of thousands of islands has its own characteristics and peculiarities,
2. that since time immemorial the Indonesian archipelago has constituted one entity,
3. that in the interest of the territorial integrity of the Indonesian State all the islands and the waters lying between those islands should be regarded as a single unit,
4. that the delimitation of the territorial waters as provided for in article 1, paragraph 1 of the Territorial Sea and Maritime Circles Ordinance of 1939 (Government Gazette 1939 No. 442) is not in accordance with the above considerations, as it divided the territory of Indonesia into separate parts having their own territorial sea,

5. that it is therefore deemed necessary to enact an Act concerning the Indonesian waters in accordance with the above considerations,  
Having regard to:

Article 5 paragraph I of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia  
Having heard:

The deliberations of the Cabinet of Ministers of 20 January 1960,

Decides to enact:

### **Act Concerning Indonesian Waters:**

#### **Article 1**

- (1) The Indonesian waters consist of the territorial sea and the internal waters of Indonesia.
- (2) The Indonesian territorial sea is a maritime belt of a width of 12 nautical miles, the outer limit of which is measured perpendicular to the baselines or points on the baselines which consist of straight lines connecting the outermost points on the low water mark of the outermost islands or part of such islands comprising Indonesian territory with the provision that in case straits of a width of not more than 24 nautical miles and Indonesia is not the only coastal state the outer limit of the Indonesian territorial sea shall be drawn at the middle of the strait.
- (3) The Indonesian internal waters are all waters lying within the baselines mentioned in paragraph (2).
- (4) One nautical mile is one sixtieth of a meridian.

#### **Article 2**

On the map annexed to this Act is indicated the position of the points and baselines mentioned in article 1 paragraph (2).

#### **Article 3**

- (1) Innocent passage through the internal waters of Indonesia is open to foreign vessels.
- (2) The innocent passage is mentioned in paragraph 1 shall be regulated by Government Ordinance.

### Article 4

(1) This Act comes into force on the date of its promulgation.

(2) Article 1 paragraph 1 sub-paragraph 1 to 4 of the Territorial Sea and Maritime Circles' Ordinance of 1939 is no longer valid as from the date mentioned in paragraph 1.

In order that the Act be known to everybody whomsoever it is instructed that this Act be promulgated by publication in the Government Gazette.

Done at Djakarta on 18 February, 1960

Promulgated at Djakarta on 18 February, 1960

President of the Republic of Indonesia

Minister of Justice

sd. (SOEKARNO)

sd (SAHARDJO)

Published in Government Gazette No. 22, 18 February 1960.

### LOCATION OF POINTS OF BASELINES OF THE INDONESIAN WATERS

#### Note

U = Utara = North  
S = Selatan = South  
T = Timur = East  
B = Barat = West

REFERENCE NUMBER	CO-ORDINATES OF POINTS		LOCATION
	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
1.	01° - 13.8 U	104° - 35.6 T	Tg. Berakit.
1A.	01 - 02.9 U	104 - 40.7 T	Sentut.
2.	00 - 56.0 U	104 - 55.8 T	Merapas.
3.	00 - 24.4 U	104 - 33.7 T	Kuju.
4.	00 - 18.0 S	105 - 01.0 T	Meranti.
5.	00 - 45.7 S	104 - 56.2 T	Saja.
6.	01° - 08.5 S	105° - 16.9 T	P. Pekatjang.
7.	00 - 54.5 S	105 - 45.4 T	Toty.
8.	01 - 36.0 S	106 - 03.0 T	Punggul.
9.	02 - 16.4 S	106 - 26.7 T	-
10.	02 - 24.1 S	107 - 04.8 T	Gaspar.
11.	02 - 31.8 S	107 - 37.0 T	Langkuas.
12.	02 - 31.4 S	107 - 49.1 T	Tg. Siantu.
13.	02 - 38.5 S	108 - 12.2 T	Busung Serlang.
14.	01 - 42.0 S	108 - 41.1 T	Serutu.
15.	01 - 16.9 S	108 - 52.4 T	Leman.
16.	00 - 07.2 U	108 - 36.1 T	Datu.
17.	00 - 14.7 U	108 - 01.5 T	Pengiki.
18.	00 - 05.9 U	107 - 14.0 T	Pendjantan.

REFERENCE NUMBER	CO-ORDINATES OF POINTS		LOCATION
	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
19.	00 - 33.1 U	106 - 58.2 T	Anak Awur.
20.	00 - 55.2 U	106 - 44.5 T	Tokong Kemudi.
21.	01 - 32.2 U	106 - 26.6 T	Kaju Ara.
22.	02 - 18.1 U	105 - 35.5 T	Malang Biru.
23.	02 - 44.6 U	105 - 23.0 T	Damar.
24.	03 - 05.5 U	105 - 35.0 T	Mangkai.
25.	03 - 19.8 U	105 - 57.0 T	Nanas.
26.	03 - 26.5 U	106 - 16.0 T	Balajar.
27.	03 - 18.0 U	107 - 33.9 T	Noord Hooiberg.
28.	03 - 55.0 U	107 - 54.0 T	Salor.
29.	04 - 31.1 U	107 - 43.9 T	Semioen.
30.	04 - 48.0 U	108 - 01.9 T	Sekatoeng.
31.	04 - 01.1 U	108 - 25.9 T	Senua.
32.	03 - 03.3 U	108 - 52.2 T	Subi.
33.	02 - 38.5 U	109 - 10.5 T	Kepala.
34.	02 - 04.1 U	109 - 06.9 T	Merunding.
35.	02 - 05.2 U	109 - 38.3 T	Tg. Datu.
36.	04 - 10.0 U	117 - 53.7 T	Tg. Saima.
36A.	04 - 07.6 U	117 - 55.3 T	-
36B.	04 - 03.7 U	117 - 55.5 T	-
37.	03 - 28.5 U	117 - 52.5 T	Tg. Arang.
38.	02 - 22.2 U	118 - 12.2 T	Pandjang.
39.	02 - 19.0 U	118 - 33.8 T	Tg. Bui Tuwattan.
40.	01 - 46.4 U	119 - 01.7 T	Sambit.
41.	01 - 01.3 U	118 - 59.5 T	Tg. Mangkalihat.
42.	00 - 35.5 U	119 - 47.9 T	Tuguan.
43.	01 - 00.5 U	120 - 12.8 T	Lingian.
44.	01 - 20.5 U	120 - 47.6 T	Straat Kapar.
44A.	01 - 22.6 U	120 - 53.5 T	Dalangan.
45.	01 - 19.2 U	121 - 28.1 T	H. Kandi.
46.	01 - 02.2 U	122 - 27.0 T	Tg. Sumalata.
47.	00 - 58.0 U	123 - 15.0 T	Tg. Dulang.
48.	01 - 09.6 U	124 - 20.1 T	Tg. Lainpangi.
49.	01 - 45.2 U	124 - 43.9 T	Yanterawu.
50.	02 - 21.5 U	125 - 17.6 T	Pasige.
51.	02 - 44.5 U	125 - 9.5 T	Makalehi.
52.	03 - 42.9 U	125 - 23.9 T	Tg. Talawid.
53.	04 - 14.0 U	125 - 19.1 T	Kawalusu.
54.	04 - 40.4 U	125 - 25.6 T	Kawio.
55.	04 - 44.5 U	125 - 28.5 T	Marore.
56.	05 - 34.8 U	126 - 36.5 T	Miangas.
57.	04 - 45.0 U	127 - 09.0 T	Marampit.
58.	04 - 37.4 U	127 - 09.2 T	Kakarutan.
59.	03 - 45.4 U	126 - 51.2 T	Darnau.
60.	02 - 38.5 U	128 - 33.5 T	Tg. Sopi.
61.	02 - 30.2 U	128 - 40.4 T	Tg. Gorango.
62.	01 - 32.7 U	128 - 43.9 T	Gam Tjaka.
63.	00 - 43.5 U	129 - 08.1 T	Jiew.
64.	00 - 20.8 U	129 - 52.4 T	Ai.
65.	00 - 32.0 U	130 - 44.0 T	Budd.
66.	01 - 04.7 U	131 - 15.6 T	Fani.

REFERENCE NUMBER	CO-ORDINATES OF POINTS		LOCATION
	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
67.	00 - 36.0 U	131 - 11.9 T	Aju eiln.
68.	00 - 11.0 S	131 - 18.8 T	H. Lamarche.
69.	00 - 43.5 S	131 - 32.5 T	Dore Hoem Bi.
70.	00 - 20.2 S	132 - 10.5 T	Mios Soe.
71.	00 - 21.8 S	132 - 43.0 T	Valsche Kaap.
72.	00 - 56.8 U	134 - 17.2 T	Mapia Eil.
73.	00 - 11.6 S	134 - 59.1 T	Ajawi.
74.	00 - 23.5 S	135 - 16.1 T	Bepondi.
75.	00 - 41.4 S	135 - 23.5 T	Tg. Imbieri.
76.	00 - 42.1 S	135 - 48.5 T	Tg. Praisbari.
77.	01 - 04.9 S	136 - 23.3 T	Tg. Warari.
78.	01 - 27.8 S	137 - 55.0 T	Hoek d. Uriville.
79.	01 - 35.5 S	138 - 43.0 T	Limi.
80.	02 - 18.5 S	140 - 07.0 T	Tg. Kamdara.
80A.	02 - 26.2 S	140 - 36.9 T	-
81.	02 - 36.2 S	141 - 00.0 T	Oinake.
82.	09 - 12.7 S	141 - 01.7 T	-
83.	09 - 00.4 S	140 - 49.9 T	Wanme.
84.	08 - 09.9 S	139 - 52.8 T	Biak R.
85.	08 - 12.8 S	139 - 20.0 T	Weleb.
86.	08 - 22.9 S	138 - 54.6 T	Kaap Kaol.
87.	08 - 25.1 S	138 - 47.7 T	Mom Boem.
88.	08 - 27.0 S	137 - 35.1 T	Kaap Valsch.
89.	06 - 55.1 S	138 - 32.5 T	De Jong's punt.
90.	06 - 22.0 S	138 - 24.5 T	Cook R.
91.	05 - 43.1 S	138 - 05.0 T	-
92.	05 - 22.5 S	137 - 43.0 T	Laag E.
93.	04 - 55.0 S	04 - 55.0 S	Kp. Steenboom.
94.	04 - 38.8 S	136 - 07.0 T	Amarapaja.
95.	04 - 27.7 S	135 - 12.8 T	Tg. Namaripi.
96.	05 - 19.3 S	134 - 35.0 T	Warilade.
97.	05 - 22.4 S	134 - 44.1 T	Djedah Eil.
98.	06° - 04.5 S	134° - 52.0 T	Kawaera eil.
99.	06 - 19.7 S	134 - 52.2 T	Penambulai.
100.	06 - 52.5 S	134 - 43.4 T	Kultu Bai.
101A.	07 - 01.8 S	134 - 40.1 T	Karang.
101.	07 - 07.0 S	134 - 28.9 T	Enu.
102.	06 - 57.2 S	134 - 10.6 T	Tg. Ngabordamlu.
103.	06 - 00.5 S	132 - 50.2 T	Tg. Weduar.
104.	07 - 15.0 S	131 - 59.0 T	Larat.
105.	08 - 03.8 S	131 - 17.5 T	Asutubun.
106.	08 - 08.0 S	131 - 10.5 T	Adaut.
107.	08 - 21.6 S	130 - 48.5 T	Bat Arkdusu.
108.	08 - 13.7 S	129 - 50.1 T	Masela.
109.	08 - 22.0 S	128 - 31.0 T	Meaty Mirang.
110.	08 - 14.9 S	127 - 38.0 T	Luhulele.
111.	08 - 06.4 S	127 - 09.5 T	Jen Tu.
112.	07 - 58.7 S	126 - 28.2 T	Eden.
113.	08 - 01.1 S	125 - 48.6 T	Pibia.
114.	08 - 59.0 S	124 - 24.0 T	-
115.	09 - 08.0 S	124 - 00.0 T	-

REFERENCE NUMBER	CO-ORDINATES OF POINTS		LOCATION
	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
116.	09 - 28.0 S	125 - 05.1 T	Mota Massin.
117.	09 - 38.3 S	124 - 58.7 T	Tg. We Toh.
118.	10 - 09.1 S	125 - 00.0 T	-
119.	10 - 16.5 S	124 - 01.0 T	-
120.	10 - 49.6 S	123 - 13.4 T	Puleh.
121.	11 - 00.9 S	122 - 52.5 T	Dana.
122.	10 - 37.5 S	121 - 50.8 T	Tg. Merabu.
123.	10 - 50.0 S	121 - 17.0 T	Dana.
124.	10 - 19.0 S	120 - 27.2 T	Tg. Ngudju.
125.	10 - 20.6 S	120 - 06.8 T	Atangudu.
126.	09 - 48.0 S	119 - 23.6 T	Tg. Rua.
127.	09 - 45.5 S	119 - 11.6 T	Tg. Mambo.
128.	09 - 40.5 S	119 - 02.0 T	-
129.	08 - 53.6 S	118 - 29.9 T	Toro Doro.
130.	09 - 06.8 S	117 - 02.0 T	Tg. Talonan.
131.	08 - 54.9 S	116 - 00.0 T	Tg. Pangga.
132.	08 - 50.0 S	115 - 50.3 T	Tg. Bt. Gendang.
133.	08 - 49.4 S	115 - 35.9 T	Nusa.
134.	08 - 51.0 S	115 - 08.1 T	Tafelhock.
135.	08 - 46.4 S	114 - 30.9 T	Tg. Bantenas.
136.	08 - 44.5 S	114 - 20.8 T	Tg. Purwa.
137.	08 - 44.5 S	114 - 20.8 T	Mustaka.
138.	08 - 30.0 S	113 - 18.5 T	Barung.
139.	08 - 24.0 S	111 - 42.2 T	Skel.
140.	08 - 12.1 S	110 - 42.2 T	-
141.	08 - 08.5 S	110 - 33.0 T	-
142.	07 - 47.0 S	109 - 25.2 T	Bt. Tugur.
143.	07 - 47.5 S	109 - 02.1 T	Kambangan.
144.	07 - 49.0 S	108 - 26.1 T	-
145.	07 - 44.9 S	107 - 50.0 T	Tg. Gedeh.
146.	07 - 23.2 S	106 - 24.5 T	Genteng.
147.	07 - 01.2 S	105 - 31.6 T	Deli.
148.	06 - 50.5 S	105 - 14.5 T	Tg. Goha Kolah.
149.	06 - 37.8 S	105 - 06.0 T	Ganaila.
150.	05 - 57.0 S	104 - 35.8 T	Balimbing.
151.	05 - 39.1 S	104 - 18.1 T	-
152.	05 - 14.5 S	103 - 54.5 T	Og. Walor.
153.	04 - 49.0 S	103 - 20.1 T	Tg. Bandar.
154.	05 - 33.1 S	102 - 19.0 T	-
155.	05 - 22.1 S	102 - 05.3 T	Tg. Kooma.
156.	04 - 02.0 S	101 - 02.1 T	Mega.
157.	03 - 21.3 S	100 - 27.8 T	-
158.	03 - 18.0 S	100 - 19.9 T	Baru – Baru.
159.	02 - 50.0 S	99 - 59.6 T	Tg. Ratai.
160.	02 - 18.0 S	99 - 36.2 T	Tg. Simailupa.
161.	01 - 41.0 S	98 - 52.8 T	Siberut.
162.	01 - 12.4 S	98 - 35.0 T	Siberut.
163.	00 - 31.8 S	98 - 17.0 T	Tg. Hatik.
164.	00 - 05.5 S	97 - 51.0 T	Semuk.
165.	00 - 35.2 U	97 - 40.2 T	Laguadi.
166.	00 - 49.8 U	97 - 20.0 T	Bawa.

REFERENCE NUMBER	CO-ORDINATES OF POINTS		LOCATION
	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
167.	01 - 12.0 U	97 - 04.7 T	Wunga.
168.	01 - 24.1 U	97 - 03.1 T	Tg. Tojolawa.
169.	02 - 04.1 U	96 - 37.5 T	Babi.
170.	02 - 38.0 U	95 - 47.0 T	-
171.	02 - 58.9 U	95 - 23.0 T	Kokos Eil.
172.	04 - 07.5 U	96 - 06.7 T	Meulaboh.
173.	04 - 36.9 U	95 - 34.0 T	Tjalang Bi.
174.	04 - 52.0 U	95 - 22.0 T	Roja.
175.	05 - 17.0 U	95 - 11.9 T	Rusa.
176.	05 - 48.0 U	95 - 11.9 T	Noord West E.
177.	06 - 05.0 U	95 - 07.0 T	Rondo.
178.	05 - 54.0 U	95 - 20.0 T	le Meule.
179.	05 - 30.4 U	95 - 53.0 T	Og. Pidie.
180.	05 - 16.5 U	96 - 49.5 T	Og. Peusangan.
181.	05 - 17.0 U	97 - 29.0 T	-
182.	04 - 53.0 U	97 - 55.0 T	Og. Peureula.
183.	03 - 55.3 U	02 - 52.0 U	Og. Temiang.
184.	03 - 47.4 U	99 - 29.6 T	Berhala.
185.	02 - 52.0 U	100 - 33.8 T	Noordrots.
186.	02 - 09.4 U	101 - 39.5 T	Tg. Medang.
187.	01 - 06.0 U	102 - 59.0 T	Tg. Kedabu.
188.	01 - 11.6 U	103 - 21.0 T	Iju.
189.	01 - 10.0 U	103 - 23.4 T	Karimun.
190.	01 - 09.2 U	103 - 39.3 T	Nipa.
191.	01 - 07.9 U	103 - 42.0 T	-
192.	01 - 10.9 U	103 - 52.9 T	Berhanti.
193.	01° - 12.5 U	104° - 04.3 T	Nongsa.
194.	01 - 12.3 U	104 - 23.5 T	Tg. Sading.
195.	01 - 13.8 U	104 - 35.6 T	Tg. Berakit.

Indonesia has adopted the so-called "archipelago principle" in drawing straight baselines about its island territory. The legislation is based upon earlier Dutch law (Royal Territorial Sea Ordinance of 1939) which, while more restrictive, did enclose certain water bodies. The extensive Indonesian system has produced five separate sectors:

a) Extending from Bintan Island, east of Singapore, to the western coastal terminus of the Indonesia-Malaysia land boundary, on Borneo, the first sector joins the outermost points of the most seaward islands and serves to close the northern entrances into the Java Sea. The thirty-five segments measure 1,333.2 nautical miles and have an average length of 38.09 nautical miles. The shortest segment, 1 - 1a, extends approximately 12 n.m. while the longest, 15 - 16, extends about 83.5 nautical miles. From points 16 through 34, the straight baseline system encloses several isolated and detached island groups of Indonesia. Point No. 23, for example, lies within 60 nautical miles of the Malaysian mainland but is nearly 230 nautical miles from Borneo.

b) Extending from the eastern terminus of the Indonesian - Malaysian land boundary on Borneo to the Indonesian - New Guinea boundary, the second sector closes the northern entrances to the Flores, Molucca and Banda Seas. The 49 segments, from point No. 36 -

81, have a total length of 2,260.5 nautical miles. The average extent of a segment is 46.13 nautical miles. The maximum and minimum lengths are approximately 124.0 (No. 59 - 60) and 4.0 (No. 36 - 36a), respectively. Point No. 56 is on the Indonesian island of Miangas (Palmas) which is within the claimed territorial sea of the Philippines (See IBS Series A, No. 33). The point is 52 miles off Mindanao and 215 nautical miles from Halmahera.

c) Extending from the southern terminus of the Indonesia - Papua land boundary to a point near Portuguese Timor, the third sector encloses the eastern entrances to the Banda Sea. The thirty-two segments, from No. 82 to 113, measure approximately 1,436.5 nautical miles. The average length of a segment is 44.8 nautical miles while the longest (No. 88 - 89) and shortest (105 - 106) are approximately 103.9 and 8.0 nautical miles, respectively.

d) The fourth sector is a single straight line segment lying approximately 12 nautical miles offshore from the Portuguese Timor exclave of Ocussi. While represented on the attached map by lines joining the points to the seaward termini of the Indonesia - Portuguese Timor land boundary, it is not apparent that this is the intent of the law. Rather it appears that the two artificial points are chosen to limit Portuguese Timor to a narrow territorial sea belt. Lateral boundaries, presumably, will be negotiated later. The single segment measures 25.8 nautical miles.

e) Extending from the southern terminus of the Portuguese - Indonesian boundary on Timor to Point No. 1, the final sector of the Indonesian straight baseline system closes the southern entrances to the Savu, Flores and Java Seas. The seventy-nine segments extend 3,111.6 nautical miles with an average length of 39.3 nautical miles. The longest (No. 186 - 187) and shortest (190 - 191) segments measure 100.8 and 2.6 nautical miles, respectively.

Two small islands lie seaward of segments 104 - 105 and 139 - 140 and it may be that the intent of the law is to enclose them within the system. Problems involving positioning undoubtedly cause the apparent exclusion.

The entire Indonesian straight baseline system extends for 8,167.6 nautical miles. The system encloses approximately 666,000 square nautical miles of internal waters including the previously mentioned seas and the important straits of Sunda, Sumba, Lombok, Ombai, Molucca and Macassar as well as numerous internal passages within the Indonesian archipelago. The system contains 196 individual segments with an average length of 41.67 nautical miles. Appendix I gives the approximate lengths of each segment.

Since the Indonesian territorial sea claim extends seaward for 12 nautical miles from the straight baselines, an additional 98,000 square nautical miles of water would theoretically fall under Indonesian sovereignty.

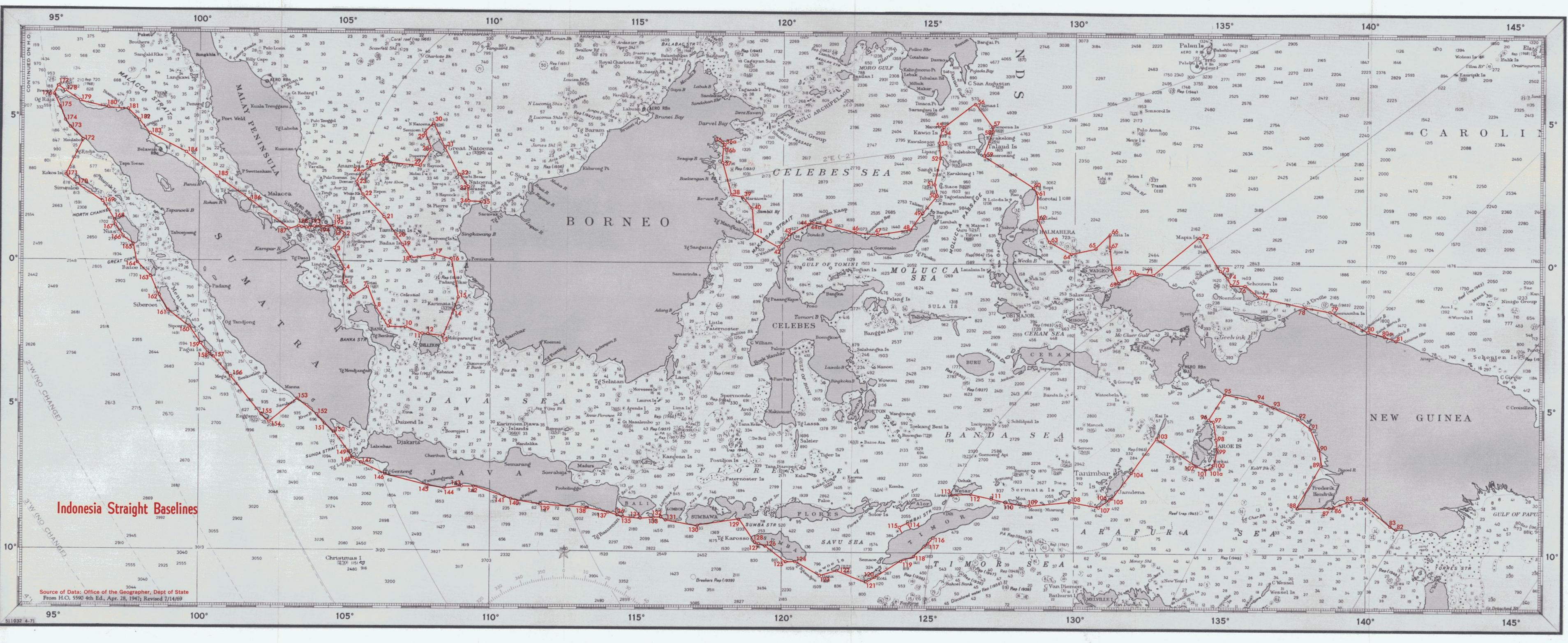
The United States Government has not recognized the so-called "archipelago principle" as an accepted principle of international law.

Indonesia is not a party to the Geneva Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone.





<u>Sector V</u>	<u>Nautical miles</u>
164 - 165	40.1
165 - 166	25.0
166 - 167	33.0
167 - 168	6.0
168 - 169	48.7
169 - 170	61.0
170 - 171	30.9
171 - 172	82.1
172 - 173	44.0
173 - 174	18.9
174 - 175	26.8
175 - 176	32.0
176 - 177	22.1
177 - 178	17.9
178 - 179	39.2
179 - 180	60.8
180 - 181	39.5
181 - 182	34.0
182 - 183	36.5
183 - 184	83.0
184 - 185	84.0
185 - 186	79.9
186 - 187	100.8
187 - 188	21.0
188 - 189	3.9
189 - 190	16.0
190 - 191	2.6
191 - 192	10.9
192 - 193	13.2
193 - 194	17.4
194 - 195	<u>12.3</u>
Total	3,111.6



**Indonesia Straight Baselines**

Source of Data: Office of the Geographer, Dept of State  
From H.O. 5590 4th Ed., Apr. 28, 1947; Revised 7/14/69